



Walton Hills Journal



Mayor and Council Report

www.waltonhillsohio.gov

July 2013



Kevin Hurst
Mayor



Denny Linville
Council President



Mary Brenner
Councilwoman



Don Kolograf
Councilman



Paul Rich
Councilman



Brian Spitznagel
Councilman



Gloria Terlosky
Councilwoman



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Information Line 24/7
440.735.5001 - Option 5

Dear Residents,

I was very pleased with the turnout at our Memorial Day program, where approximately 72 people were in attendance. We were honored to have Congressman Dave Joyce deliver the keynote address. A critically acclaimed local recording artist, Raine Austen, sang our National Anthem. All of Council was in attendance as well as many of our Village employees. Our program was a fitting tribute to those who gave their lives for our freedom.

I was extremely proud that five of our Council members attended the Bedford Memorial Day parade. I was the only mayor of the four communities in our School District to have such a great show of support from their Council; this is one of the greatest rewards I can receive as mayor. Many of our residents expressed their appreciation for the dedication of their elected officials.

Walton Hills officials are steadily developing solid relationships built on mutual respect and communication with our businesses, our residents and our neighboring communities. We have been working hard to bring back the "Walton Hills Way," a way of pride and respect that was practiced many years ago in many other administrations. Our officials work as one massive body where many gears work together to keep the machine operating and functioning in a smooth manner. Although we will never get everything perfect, we are always striving toward this goal.

I invite everyone to come out and support Bedford's Fourth of July parade, where once again we will have a large number of your Council members and Mayor in attendance. Please come be a part of this patriotic tradition and show your support for our Village!

Kevin Hurst

Mayor/Safety/Economic Development Director



Walton Hills Police Department Information



Kenn Thellmann, Chief of Police / Don Kolograf, Safety Committee Chairman

Tips for Parents: Summer Car Safety

Tragically, every year children die from overheating in cars. Sometimes they sneak into a car and become trapped or are forgotten. Please make sure you keep your car doors locked when not in use for safety and prevention of theft. Many times children are intentionally left there by parents or caregivers while they run an errand and sustain injury and even death. Remember the following:



1. **NEVER LEAVE A CHILD OR PETS ALONE IN A CAR** no matter what time of year it is, but especially in summer when the temperature of a closed car can reach more than 140 degrees in just minutes.
2. Always double check that your child is safely in the house or has been dropped off at daycare. Never assume someone else brought your child in, and then lock the doors to prevent young children from sneaking in or playing in the car. Ask your child care provider to call right away if they don't show up at the regular time.
3. Warn children that it is never safe to play in a car and make sure they know it is not allowed.
4. Because temperatures can get so high in a car, also be sure to touch the interior before you get in or put a baby in. If the seat, seat belt or steering wheel is hot to your touch, the car can burn your baby. Open all the doors and windows or turn on the vehicle's air conditioner and let the car cool off before your drive.

Talk With Your Teen about Safe Driving

Before summer vacation is in full swing, talk with your teens about safe driving:

- **Talk with your teens about underage drinking.** It's illegal and dangerous – and we're not just talking about drunk driving. Over two-thirds of all deaths associated with underage drinking are not on the roadways. Have your teens take a pledge to you to not drink until 21 and never ride with someone who has been drinking.
- **Always wear a seat belt.** The simplest way to prevent car crash deaths is to buckle up. According to the CDC, teens have the lowest rate of seat belt use and only 54 percent of high school students reported wearing seat belts when riding with someone else. Talk to your teen about the importance of seat belts for passengers, as well as the driver.
- **Warn your teen about Texting and Driving.** Many deaths occur each year due to drivers attempting to text when driving. Never text and drive!
- **Limit the number of passengers.** Crash risk goes up when teens drive with other teens in the car. According to the CDC, nearly two out of three teen crash deaths that involve 16-year-old drivers happen when a new driver has one or more teen passengers.



- **Limit night time driving.** It's important for teens to practice night driving, but set restrictions on their driving times.
- **Create a parent-teen driving agreement.** Reinforce your talks by working with your teen to create a parent-teen driving agreement. Learn more and download the parent-teen driving agreement from the CDC's website (www.cdc.gov).

When it comes to keeping teen drivers safe, parents are the key. So talk with your teens about safe driving habits, and more importantly, be a role model. Always practice safe driving habits like buckling up, avoiding distractions, and never drive after drinking.



W.H. Police Department Information - continued



Keg Law

The Walton Hills Police Department is taking this opportunity to remind everyone of the 1989 amendment to the Ohio Revised Code Section 4301.69. Commonly known as the "keg law," the amendment holds individuals responsible for underage drinking on property under their control.



If an after-prom party, graduation party, birthday party or any other type of party is held at a private home, for example, and the parents knowingly allow underage persons to consume alcoholic beverages, both the underage persons and the parents are in violation of the law. Violation of the keg law is a first-degree misdemeanor, punishable with up to six months in jail and/or up to a \$1,000 fine. Also, the parents may be held liable in the event that an underage person is involved in an alcoholic-related crash.

Summer Insect Safety Tips



With summertime picnics and parties fast approaching, we need to exercise common sense. Bugs, bees, ants, and other creepy crawlers will soon be everywhere and will no doubt cause many problems to many people. Here are a few quick tips to help make your summer time more enjoyable and hopefully sting and bite free.

1. Bees and mosquitoes love sweet smells. With so many shampoos, conditioners, body lotions, and deodorants having wonderful smells, it is time to go with unscented products. This will help in reducing the amount of pests that will be attracted to you because of the way you smell.
2. Some mosquitoes may carry West Nile Virus and many other types of diseases, so it is far better to keep them at bay. Mosquito repellent is always a good idea to wear.
3. Standing water where pests congregate is a well-known breeding area. Empty any standing water that collects in any cans, pails, old tires or any other containers around your property. Springtime is a good time to do this when the majority of mosquitoes are not yet around.
4. If you have a short bowl, pour a cup of water in it along with some *Lemon Fresh Joy* dish detergent and set it in a breeding area away from people at your picnic, backyard or deck. The mosquitoes are attracted to it-they partake of it and end up dead. This will mean fewer bites for you, your family and your guests.
5. Bees love hidden areas and often build their nests in areas hidden away and generally quiet. Examples of these areas are children's playhouses, under aboveground pool railings, out buildings, swing sets, bushes, and in the ground; take care when entering and using these areas.
6. Trick bees by leaving a bee bottle sitting in a location away from people. A bee bottle is simply a bottle without a label that is filled with a few inches of flat soda (the sweeter the better). Bees are attracted to it and stay away from people.
7. If you use a "bug zapper" to draw bugs away from you, make sure you position it 50 to 75 feet away from where you are at.

May Ticket Summary



Driving Under Suspension	6	Operating a Vehicle Intoxicated	2
Drug Related Offenses	7	Speeding	78
Expired Plates	11	Seatbelt Violations	13
Faulty Exhaust	9	Traffic Lanes and Lines	5
No/Improper Display of License Plates	4	Miscellaneous Traffic Offenses*	38
No Operator's License on Person	6	Total Offenses for May	179

*Total citations 3 or less for each miscellaneous offense

Fiscal Officer's Report

Vic Nogalo, Fiscal Officer

(440) 735-5028

nogalov@waltonhillsohio.gov

Denny Linville, Finance Committee Chairman

As many of you know by now, Issue 10 was passed on May 7th increasing the Village income tax rate from 2.0% to 2.5%, effective July 1, 2013. The transition will be a bit more difficult due to the fact that the tax increase occurs in the middle of the year instead of at the beginning of the year. This article attempts to address the transition and assist businesses, residents and nonresidents with filing and paying their taxes properly.



Payroll Withholding Taxes

Employers within the Village will have to begin withholding 2.5% from employees' income beginning with the pay date of July 1, 2013 regardless of when the income was earned. The Village's current ordinance reads as follows:

An annual tax for the purpose specified in Section [890.01](#) shall be imposed on and after July 1, 2013, at the rate of 2.5% on all income, qualifying wages, commissions and other compensation earned and/or received on and after July 1, 2013.

The Village sent letters to all employers and payroll agencies during the first two weeks of June detailing the tax rate change. Withholding forms for the second half of 2013 can be obtained on the Village website.

Individual Taxes – Annual Return

To make things less complicated for the 2013 tax year, a **“blended tax rate”** of 2.25% will be used for the full year. A **“split tax rate”** is an option if a resident wishes to treat the 2013 tax year by establishing the first six months (January – June) of 2013 at a 2.0% tax rate, and the last six months (July – December) of 2013 at a 2.5% tax rate. If so, the Tax Department will require the taxpayer to document the year to date gross pay through June 30, 2013 at or near the date of the tax increase. The Tax Department will then compute each half year separately. The following examples detail the two different approaches a resident may choose for the 2013 tax year:

Blended tax rate: John works in Cleveland and his gross pay is \$50,000 and has \$1,000 (2.0%) in local taxes withheld and paid to Cleveland. The tax owed the Village is calculated at \$1,125 (\$50,000 x 2.25%). The Village allows for a \$1,000 credit paid to Cleveland. John will owe the Village \$125 when filing his 2013 return.

Split tax rate: John works in Cleveland and his gross pay is \$50,000 and has \$1,000 (2.0%) in local taxes withheld and paid to Cleveland. John was paid \$30,000 in the first half of 2013 and \$20,000 in the second half of 2013. In addition to supplying a W-2 with his 2013 tax return, John attaches a pay stub from his last pay in June indicating his year to date gross pay of \$30,000. The tax owed the Village is calculated at \$1,100 (\$30,000 x 2.0% plus \$20,000 x 2.5%). The Village allows for a \$1,000 credit paid to Cleveland. John will owe the Village \$100 when filing his 2013 return.

Fiscal Officer's Report - continued

Residents using the “*blended tax rate*” and working in communities whose tax rate is 2.25% or more will not owe any taxes for the 2013 tax year. Communities that are currently taxing at 2.25% or more are: Akron, Bedford, Copley, Macedonia, Shaker Heights, and Twinsburg. Communities that are currently taxing at 2.50% or more are: Brooklyn, Columbus, Euclid, Highland Hills, Maple Heights, North Randall, Oakwood, Parma, Parma Heights, University Heights, and Warrensville Heights.



One common mistake made by taxpayers occurs when multiple W-2s are submitted where employers are located in different municipalities. Village ordinance 890.13 reads as follows:

*The credit shall be equal to 100% of the amount obtained by multiplying the lower of the tax rate of such other municipality or Joint Economic Development District, **or** of the Village, by the taxable income earned in or attributable to the municipality of employment or business activity.*

Each W-2 and work city is independent of each other as the following example will explain using the “*blended tax rate*”:

Blended tax rate: John has two jobs. He works in Cleveland and his gross pay is \$50,000 and has \$1,000 (2.0%) in local taxes withheld and paid to Cleveland. He also works in Oakwood Village and his gross pay is \$50,000 and has \$1,250 (2.5%) in local taxes withheld and paid to Oakwood. The tax owed the Village is calculated at \$2,250 ($\$100,000 \times 2.25\%$). John will receive a total credit of \$2,125 paid to other communities and will owe the Village \$125 when filing his 2013 return.

The Village allows for the full \$1,000 credit paid to Cleveland and allows for only \$1,125 credit paid to Village of Oakwood. The credit for Oakwood taxes paid is the lower rate of Walton Hills’ “*blended tax rate*” of 2.25%. In the end, John does not owe the Village for his Oakwood earnings, but does owe \$125 for his Cleveland earnings.

Individual Taxes – 2013 Estimated Payments

The Village will send a letter to all individuals who may potentially owe taxes to the Village for the 2013 tax year during the first few weeks of July detailing the change in the tax rate and the potential of owing taxes at the end of the year. Residents who expect to owe for the first time or expect their original 2013 estimates to increase will be able to establish or amend their 2013 estimated billing.

Example: John currently works in Cleveland and his gross pay is estimated to be \$50,000 for tax year 2013. In addition it is estimated that \$1,000 (2.0%) in local taxes will be withheld and paid to Cleveland. John will owe the Village \$125 when filing his 2013 return. John wants to establish estimated billing so that he doesn’t have to pay \$125 with his 2013 return. He receives a letter from the Village in early July and establishes estimated billing for the remainder of the year. John will be billed in July, October and January for \$42, \$42 and \$41, respectively.

If you have questions relating to this article, feel free to contact Vic Nogalo at 440.735.5028. We will have another article in next month’s Journal to answer additional questions that may arise as a result of the tax increase.

July Recreation News



Carol Stanoszek, Recreation Director

(440) 786-2964

stanoszekc@waltonhillsohio.gov

Mary Brenner, Recreation and Community Life Committee Chairwoman

Event: TOUR OF GATES-HANDYSIDE HOME/ REICHLE MEMORIAL GARDEN

Date: Tuesday, July 2nd

Time: Leave Village Hall at 10 a.m.

Site: Downtown Bedford

Cost: \$11 cash + lunch money

Note: Learn about the architecture and details of this downtown Bedford house built in 1893 and the family that built it.

**TRIP IS
FULL**

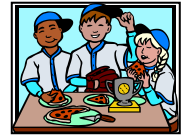
Event: SPORTS PICNIC

Date: Sunday, July 28th

Time: Noon to 4:00 p.m.

Site: Walton Hills Lake

Note: Lunch will be served from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Please bring a side dish, salad or a dessert to share. Awards immediately following. Enjoy swimming, volleyball and picnicking! Don't forget your camera!



Event: DISNEY'S THE LION KING AT THE STATE THEATRE

Date: Thursday, July 11th

Time: Leave Village Hall at 6:30 p.m.

Site: Downtown Cleveland

Cost: \$35 (balcony seats)

Note: Let your imagination run wild and thrill to the pulsating rhythms of the African Pride Lands and an unforgettable score including Elton John and Tim Rice's Oscar®-winning song "Can you Feel the Love Tonight" and "Circle of Life."

**TRIP IS
FULL**

Event: CAROL'S BOOKWORMS

Date: Monday, July 29th

Time: 7 p.m.

Site: Community Room

Cost: Please donate an item for our food pantry.

Note: Book to be announced. Join book lovers talking about books!



Event: CRAWFORD AUTO AVIATION COLLECTION

Date: Wednesday, July 31st

Time: Leave Village Hall at 9 a.m.

Site: Cleveland

Cost: \$9 + lunch money

Note: This collection represents Northeast Ohio's vital role in transportation history. Please note: lots of standing and walking!

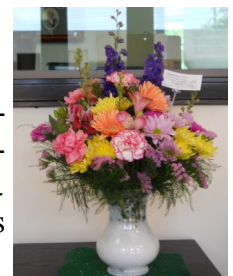


Please Note: There will be a Free Senior Lunch at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, July 29th @ the Walton Hills Lake! Please call Carol at 440.786.2964 to reserve your spot at this Free Lunch!



Thank You Carol James Florist!

Our most sincere appreciation is extended to Carol James Florist, located at 451 Broadway Avenue in Bedford, for donating a beautiful floral arrangement for display in the Village Hall lobby every week. Please patronize this wonderful florist! Their phone number is 440.786.1811.

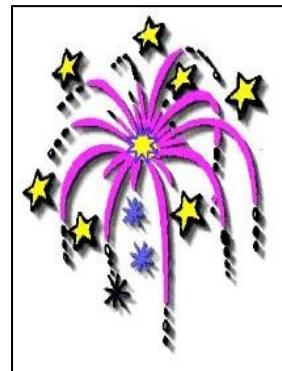


Please remember to "Like Us" on Facebook!



Community Day!

Sunday, August 11, 2013 (Tentative Agenda)



Noon	Opening ceremonies including flag raising!
Noon to 8:00 p.m.	Photo Booth Rock Climbing Wall - 5 climbers at one time Iron Man Challenge (42" and up) - 2 opponents run an obstacle course Cars Combo (ages 3-12) - bounce, climb and slide! First Down Sports Challenge (ages 10 & up) - one on one tug of war Single Bungy - catapult into the air!
Noon to 2:00 p.m.	Jerry Cole & the High Plains Drifters
Noon to 8:00 p.m.	Kids Carnival Games
12:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.	Walton Hills Grand Prix - remote control car/radio control
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	Pony Rides (on baseball diamond 1) - for toddlers to age 10
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.	Dunk Tank - come and try your luck to dunk Village officials and residents (3 balls for \$1.00)
1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.	Balloon Bender Dave - balloon fun for the kids!
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Pop Tarts (hit songs of the 60's)
4:00 p.m.	Babes of 1916 Softball Game - (baseball diamond 2)
4:30 p.m.	Citizens League Presentation – <i>Citizen of the Year 2013</i>
5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.	Blue Eyed Soul Band (R & B Band)
7:00 p.m.	Walton Hills Grand Prix Remote Control Car Race
8:30 p.m.	Announcement of Raffle Winners
Dusk	FIREWORKS EXTRAVAGANZA!



Tickets can be purchased at the Recreation Ticket Booth- \$2.00 Individual Ticket, \$12.00 for Individual Pass / Unlimited Usage; \$25.00 Family Pass / Unlimited Usage (family members only - no neighbors or friends accepted with Family Pass!) BRING YOUR CAMERAS, FAMILIES, FRIENDS and ENJOY!

FREE SUMMER CONCERTS!

We are excited to announce that Walton Hills has built a working relationship with the Mayor of Oakwood Village and the Mayor of Glenwillow Village to offer great entertainment for the 2013 summer season!

The following free concerts will take place at 7:00 p.m. in Oakwood Village this summer (don't forget your lawn chairs!):

- Thursday July 11 **Logan Wells** (Country) / Oakwood Village Hall Gazebo
- Thursday, July 18 **The Bel-Airs** (50's and 60's Rock) / Mt. Zion Church (Fine Arts Center), 1 Mount Zion Circle, located across the street from Petitti Garden Center, 24964 Broadway Avenue
- Thursday, July 25 **Glen Miller Orchestra** / Mt. Zion Church (Fine Arts Center), 1 Mount Zion Circle, located across the street from Petitti Garden Center, 24964 Broadway Avenue. (There is dinner available for all Walton Hills residents for a cost of \$5.00 a person. You must sign up at the Walton Hills Village Hall by 4:00 p.m. on July 23rd. You have a choice of tender Angus Beef Tips with mushrooms or grilled Amish Chicken Breast topped with roasted red pepper pesto. Dinner served at 6 p.m.)
- Thursday, August 1 **LaFlavour** (Voted Ohio's #1 Lounge Act) / Hawthorne Valley Shopping Center, 23100 Broadway Ave. in the Levin Furniture parking lot
- Thursday, August 8 **Mike Albert's "Memories of Elvis Show"** / Special tribute to "The Rolling Thunder" / Hawthorne Valley Shopping Center, 23100 Broadway Ave. in the Levin Furniture parking lot
- Thursday, August 15 **Stayin' Alive** (Bee Gees Tribute Band) / Hawthorne Valley Shopping Center, 23100 Broadway Ave. in the Levin Furniture parking lot
- Thursday, August 22 **Shout-"Legends of Soul" Show Band and FIREWORKS!** / Oakwood Community Park, 1 Mount Zion Circle, located across the street from Petitti Garden Center, 24964 Broadway Avenue. With this event only, all Walton Hills adult residents who attend will receive a FREE RIB DINNER! See below for instructions:

All Walton Hills adult residents that want their free Rib Dinner must come to the Walton Hills Village Hall by August 20th @ 4:00 p.m. and sign-up for a free meal ticket for this last concert of the season. Kids receive a free hot dot.

If it rains or is too hot, concerts will be held in the cool comfort of the Mt. Zion Fine Arts Center.



LEGISLATION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED AT THE 5.21.13 REGULAR COUNCIL MTG.

2013 Council meeting minutes are available in their entirety on the Village website

Ordinance 2013-10, amends and restates the Village's participation in a pension pick-up program.

Ordinance 2013-11, provides legislative protocol and procedure for the abatement of nuisances caused by unsafe or uninhabitable dwellings in the Village.

Resolution 2013-8, authorizes an agreement with the Village of Northfield regarding the traffic signal improvements located on State Route 8 (Northfield Road) at the intersection of Sagamore Road.

LEGISLATION UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED AT THE 6.18.13 REGULAR COUNCIL MTG.

Ordinance 2013-15, appropriates money to fund recreational services, legal expenses, website expenses, infrastructure improvements, and Community Room improvements.

Resolution 2013-11, authorizes the preparation of bid specifications and the advertisement of bids for the 2013 Village Street Striping Program.

Resolution 2013-12, authorizes the preparation of bid specifications and the advertisement of bids for the 2013 Village Asphalt Point Repair Program.

Resolution 2013-13, authorizes the preparation of bid specifications and the advertisement of bids for the 2013 Village Concrete Point Repair Program.

Resolution 2013-14, authorizes the preparation of bid specifications and the advertisement of bids for the 2013 Walton Hills Crack Sealing Program.

Resolution 2013-15, adopts the tax budget of the Village of Walton Hills for the fiscal year of 2014.

Economic Development News - Paul Rich, Economic Development Committee Chairman

We are pleased to announce that Hogan Truck Leasing, Inc. has purchased the building at 7575 Northfield Road, which was formerly occupied by Triad Engineering. Hogan was searching the Cleveland market for a small building with outside storage capability. The property is ideally located at the intersection of Route 8 and 1-271 and within 1/2 mile of several of Hogan's main competitors. Welcome to the Village!



VOTER REGISTRATION CANCELLATION



The Cuyahoga County Board of Elections has scheduled the removal of over 38,000 voter registration records of individuals who have not engaged in any voter activity for the past four years. The cancellation will occur on July 17, 2013. Please refer to our Village website for further information.

TRASH PICKUP DELAYED ONE DAY

Trash will not be picked up on the 4th of July, therefore trash pickup will be delayed one day that week. If your normal pickup day is Thursday, trash will be picked up on Friday. If your normal pickup day is Friday, trash will be picked up on Saturday.



WALTON HILLS LAKE – A SPARKLING JEWEL IN THE VILLAGE

The Walton Hills Lake means something different to so many residents. Some like it because the Lake gives them a large swimming area where they can do their daily laps. Others like it because it offers their children a sandy beach and an area with shallow water in which they can safely play. Others enjoy the pavilion filled with several picnic tables where they, along with their family members and friends, can escape the sun on a hot summer day. Still others think of the Lake as the social gathering place in the Village. It is also the place where all residents are invited to enjoy the Fourth of July and the annual Steak Roast and Clam Bake. This year is the first year that the new Lake slide is open – and kids are quickly compiling their own summertime memories!

The Walton Hills Lake is a unique thirteen-acre park nestled in a small valley off Rotary Drive. It is a family recreational facility chartered as a not-for-profit corporation with membership open exclusively to Walton Hills homeowners and property owners. Besides the new water slide, the Lake also has the “Water Works,” which sprays water on a continuous basis. Besides the picnic tables, the large picnic pavilion has a fireplace which comes in handy on a cool summer night. The grounds also have a bathhouse with restrooms, shaded picnic sites, small barbeque grills, a large barbeque grill and horseshoe pits. There is also a playground area, volleyball court, basketball hoop, and a large parking area. A small concession stand is used for special occasions.

How did this jewel in the Village begin? In the mid 1930’s, General Ludwig S. Conelly, a local real estate broker, began subdividing farmland along Walton, Egbert and Hicks Roads. He also mapped out subdivisions and sold lots after he cut and graveled 20 other Village roads. As a sales incentive in November of 1946, General Conelly reserved approximately ten acres for a park to be cooperatively owned, managed and maintained by those who bought his lots. Interested Conelly lot owners formed the Walton Hills Estates Club. In early 1949, the Walton Hills Lake became a reality when General Conelly had an acre dug out and club members worked together to develop it. The newly dug hole was partially fed by underground springs, and the rest was filled with water piped from the creek. Lake members built a dam to control the water flow through the creek that ran through the park. (Note: the Lake is now filled with city water, is chlorinated daily, and is tested to make sure the acidity level meets Board of Health standards). For the first nine years, membership in the Walton Hills Estates Club was only open to lot owners in Conelly developments. However, in 1955 General Conelly extended eligibility for membership to all Village residents.

Many Village children learned to swim at the Walton Hills Lake. In 1951, resident Stella Volpe organized the first Learn-to-Swim program, which still continues today. The Lake had a swim team from 1967 to 1976. The swim team was formed again as the “Walton Hills Lake Hurricanes” from 2006 to 2012.

The Walton Hills Lake operations are, and always have been, almost exclusively on a volunteer basis. A few examples: In 1949 holes were dug and enclosures were built for the men’s and women’s 2-hole outhouses located across the creek. The first bath house was built in 1967. In 1970, the original pump and filter system was installed in 1970. The pavilion was built in 1973. A renovated, larger bath house was built in 2004. This is just a small listing of the many activities of the tireless Lake volunteers. The Lake has thrived for 64 years because of the dedication of these special individuals. They have made the Walton Hills Lake something that our residents can really be proud of!



Thanks to resident Jean Kainsinger for compiling such a wealth of information on the Walton Hills Lake, which is available in the Historical Resource Center.

Left: The Walton Hills Lake with the Water Works in the foreground.

Right: The new Lake Water Slide



SPOTLIGHT ON AMERICAN INDUSTRIAL TRANSMISSION

One of the many threads in the fabric of our Village
Paul Rich, Economic Development Committee Chairman

American Industrial Transmission, Inc. (AIT), located at 20395 Hannan Parkway in Walton Hills, is known for high quality industrial transmission remanufacturing. They remanufacture industrial torque converters, electric drive units and differentials. AIT sells rebuilt transmissions and rebuilt converters for lift trucks, small construction machinery, industrial equipment and more to dealers and repair facilities. 80% of their business dealings are in the United States. They export primarily to Canada, but thanks to the internet their business is growing in Europe and South America.

Carol Lewis, President and owner of AIT, is proud of the company that she and her late husband started 36 years ago. Her husband was in the transmission business and she was mechanically inclined, so starting their own transmission business seemed like a logical move. They started out in Cleveland, then moved to Bedford, and then found a permanent home in Walton Hills for the last 22 years. AIT was originally in the building next to their current location, but they moved next door when they ran out of room. This building was built to suit their expanding business by the same person who rented them their first building on Hannan Parkway. AIT has 17 employees and the facility is 32,000 square feet. Many of the 17 people employed by AIT have been with the company for so many years that it feels like a family business. Their Service Manager has been there for 27 years and their General Manager has been there for 16 years.

AIT's mission is to provide high quality remanufactured transmissions, remanufactured torque converters, and transmission parts to equipment facilities. They support their customers with the best possible delivery time, customer service, technical support, and dedication to detail. AIT uses OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer) parts to ensure a top-quality manufacturing process.

Being stewards of the environment is important to AIT. Carol stresses that remanufacturing is one of the greenest businesses there is. She explained that instead of buying a new transmission, you start with an existing transmission and only repair what is bad with it. As for cleaning transmission parts, Carol indicated that AIT has cut down on their chemical use to clean their transmission parts and utilizes sound waves instead. She explained this process does not damage the parts they are cleaning. Transmission parts are placed in a machine, immersed in a warm water bath, and sound waves go through the water and clean the parts. They bought their first machine over eight years ago, and it worked so well they bought a second machine. They also recycle all of their waste paper, which they shred and place in the paper recycling bins located in the Village Hall parking lot. They receive a lot of their parts in cardboard boxes, which they also recycle.

Carol believes in community involvement and is a proponent of encouraging women in business. She recognizes that women face certain challenges in the business world and feels it is good to work with other women that deal with the same challenges. She is a member of the Nordonia Hills Chamber of Commerce. A subset of that organization is "Women in Business," which she is also heavily involved with. She belongs to the Rotary Club and is on the North Hills Water District Board of Trustees.









Even though Carol and her employees will pay ½% more in income tax starting in July, she is really happy that the Walton Hills residents passed Issue #10 in May. As a Village business owner, she appreciates the fine work of the Road Department, the Police Department and the Fire Department and is glad that services will continue as in the past.

AIT is always open to accepting resumes for mechanics. Carol suggests that parents encourage their children to attend a vocation school if they are good with their hands, because there is a real shortage of people to repair things. For more information on AIT, please visit their website: www.aittransmission.com.



JULY 2013



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Historical Center 1-3 & 7-8:30 p.m.	2 Tour of Gates- Handyside Home/Reichle Gardens 10 a.m.	3	4 Picnic at Walton Hills Lake 	5	6
7	8 Blood Drive 2 to 7 p.m. 	9 Committee of the Whole Mtg. 6 p.m.	10	11 Mayor's Court 4 p.m. Lion King - 6:30 p.m. Logan Wells in Concert, Oakwood Gazebo 7 p.m.	12	13
14 Citizens' League Car Show 	15	16	17 Antique Auto Club of America Mtg. 7 p.m. 	18 Bel-Airs Concert, Mt. Zion Church, 7 p.m.	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 Mayor's Court 4 p.m. Glenn Miller Orchestra Con- cert, Mr. Zion Church 7 p.m.	26	27 Lake Steak Roast 
28 Sports Picnic at Lake 12-4 p.m. 	29 Carol's Bookworms 7 pm 	30 Crawford Auto Aviation Collection 9 am 	31	August 1 LaFlavour in Concert, Haw- thorne Valley Shopping Center 7 p.m.		

Women's Exercise Class - Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Community Room

Mahjongg - Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Walton Hills Church of Christ

Knit-Wits 2 Needles - Tuesdays from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Walton Hills Church of Christ

*For the most up-to-date information, call the Village Voice Information Line
440.735.5001 - Option 5*

Extra copies of the Walton Hills Journal are available at the Village Hall